AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended): A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition to treat hepatic fibrosis in a human comprising a therapeutically effective amount of unitary doses of viral particles of a recombinant adenoviral vector[[s]],

wherein said unitary dose is from about 10^7 to about 10^{14} viral particles;

wherein the adenoviral vector[[s]] comprises an adenoviral vector selected from the group consisting of the vector contained in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-10532 ~~an adenoviral genome of serotype Ad5 with deletions at E1 and inserted with a DNA sequence regulated by a ubiquitous promoter, a tissue-specific promoter, or a combination thereof, and wherein the DNA sequence encodes for a therapeutic protein for the treatment of hepatic fibrotic disorders~~;

and a pharmaceutically compatible carrier;

~~wherein the composition is suitable for intravenous administration; and,~~

~~wherein the therapeutic protein for the treatment of fibrotic disorders is selected from the group consisting of human matrix metalloprotease-8 ("MMP-8"), human matrix metalloprotease-1, human matrix metalloprotease-2, human matrix metalloprotease-9, matrix metalloprotease-13 and combinations thereof and the truncated receptor for human transforming growth factor-β ("TGF-β") type II~~.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented): A method of treating fibrotic disorders in a human patient, comprising delivering the composition of claim 22 by an intravenous administrative route to a liver; and expressing the therapeutic protein in the liver from the recombinant adenoviral vector of the composition to treat the hepatic fibrotic disorders.

25.-34. (Canceled)